

but if children are enjoying themselves while in the classroom the participation and retention levels will be higher. McVey understands this and practices it for all grades.

Following the school motto, "McVey all the way", the Parent Teachers Association (PTA) will be hosting a blood drive. The school is out in front of the cause to help solve Long Island's blood shortage and hopefully other Long Island schools will follow their lead.

Mr. Speaker, the faculty and students, of McVey, along with the community, have created a wonderful learning environment. I am proud to name McVey Elementary School the school of the month for October 2003.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE AND FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 17, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3289) making emergency supplemental appropriations for defense and for the reconstruction of Iraq and Afghanistan for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong opposition to the process being used by the Republican Leadership to bring the Supplemental Appropriations bill before the House.

This process denies members from having the opportunity to consider or vote on the Obey substitute or to have two separate votes: one to provide the funds for our troops and the other to fund the reconstruction of Iraq.

Each Member of this body strongly supports our troops and will provide the necessary money, supplies, and equipment to ensure their safety. However, the President and the Republican Leadership has tied funding for our troops to funding for Iraq reconstruction. They know that tying the reconstruction money with the money for our troops makes it very difficult to vote no on this \$87 billion package. This puts me and other members in a position to either vote for the entire package, which includes giving the President a blank check with little accountability for spending or risk having them accuse those who vote against the package as being unpatriotic or not supporting our troops. Both charges are not only false but also outrageous.

I voted against the resolution to give the President the authority to send our troops to war in Iraq. I did so because I believed that allowing the weapons inspectors to continue to do their job in Iraq would cost us nothing and would give us more time to attempt to bring the United Nations on board. The President should have assembled an international coalition similar to the coalition that his father put together to undertake Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990–1991. However, this President instead decided to go it alone and

told the United Nations and other countries that they were either with us or against us. Unfortunately, when one country decides to go it alone as the President did with Iraq, American soldiers fight alone, die alone and the American taxpayers pay for it alone.

There was a great deal of national support at the start of the war with Iraq because the American public was told the operation would be short and that reconstruction would be financed with revenue generated from the oil in Iraq. In fact, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz told congressional committees that American soldiers could be out of Iraq within 30–60 days and the vast revenue from the oil in Iraq could pay for the entire reconstruction of Iraq. The administration is now estimating that we could be in Iraq for the next five years and with this supplemental today, the American taxpayers will have already spent between \$150–\$200 billion.

Congress has already provided \$103 billion in defense funding, over and above regular defense appropriations, for military operations in Afghanistan, for homeland defense, and, most recently in April's Emergency Wartime Supplemental appropriations bill for the war in Iraq. The deficit is growing to new highs and the government cannot keep spending at this rate.

Since coming to Congress, I have consistently and strongly supported our troops and national defense spending. I am extremely proud of our servicemen and women that have sacrificed so much in Iraq and elsewhere around the world. I am very concerned about the safety of our troops, who are serving long tours in tough conditions. Our men and women in uniform and their families are going well beyond the call of duty.

It is disgraceful that the Bush Administration and my Republican colleagues would tie funding for our military with controversial and unaccounted reconstruction funding. It is important to note that the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service contradicts the administration's position that the \$67 billion for the military is needed immediately. According to the study, the Army could finance operations through next April or May with the money already appropriated.

Mr. Chairman, I cannot in good conscience support giving this President or any president a blank check with little or no accountability. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me and reject the \$86.9 billion Supplemental Appropriations bill and send it back to the committee with instructions to immediately bring the bill back to the floor as two separate bills today: one that provides funding for our troops, which would pass unanimously, and one that would provide for reconstruction. We should let the decision concerning money for reconstruction and who will profit from it stand on its own merits.

HONORING THE WORK AND DEDICATION OF JAY SANDELIN

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 20, 2003

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor a good friend, Jay

Sandelin, for his outstanding contributions to the practice of osteopathic medicine, the Osteopathic Health System of Texas/Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas, and to the citizens of Fort Worth, Texas. Jay Sandelin not only exemplifies great leadership in his professional life, but has also shown leadership by being a current or past member of at least seventeen civic, trade, philanthropic, cultural, and business groups.

In 1989, Jay Sandelin was elected Chairman of the Board of Health Care of Texas, which comprises both the Osteopathic Health System of Texas and the Osteopathic Medical Center of Texas. During his time as Chairman of the Board, Mr. Sandelin helped influence the transition of Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine from a private institution to a state medical school, which has evolved into the University of North Texas Health Science Center. Previous to his work as Chairman of the Board, Mr. Sandelin served for many years on the boards of various osteopathic organizations in the course of a distinguished career in the financial services industry.

Mr. Sandelin's leadership has been vital in raising the profile of the osteopathic medical profession and its philosophy to a greater level of awareness and acceptance in North Texas and throughout the Nation. Because of his work, today I want to congratulate Jay Sandelin on an outstanding career and wish him well in his retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2003 NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 20, 2003

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Major League Baseball's 2003 National League Champions, the Florida Marlins. Earning the reputation of a team that does not quit or tire, the Marlins will now compete in their second World Series in only 10 short years. Down 3 games to 1 to the San Francisco Giants, the Marlins fought their way back earning two thrilling victories at home to the delight of thousands of South Florida fans. Many will never forget Game 4 of the National League Division Series where the Giants and Marlins battled back and forth to finally conclude on a spectacular play at home plate. Thanks to the solid hands of catcher Ivan "Pudge" Rodriguez, the Marlins were on their way to face the Chicago Cubs in the National League Championship Series.

The National League Championship Series garnered the excitement and thrill baseball fans have not witnessed in some time. Playing in famed Wrigley Field, the Marlins took Game 1 and headed home to the friendly confines of Pro Player Stadium with a split in the series.